



Weekly Message from Superintendent Ritz

August 15, 2016

As many of you are aware, due to an issue with Pearson's Parent Access Portal that came up last Friday, the Department has extended the ISTEP+ rescore window until the end of the day on Tuesday, August 16. Please feel free to share this information with any parents that may still wish to submit a rescore request.

In this week's Dialogue you will find information on the Indiana Kid's Election, Ball State field trips and a lot of great professional development opportunities.

Have a great week!

Glenda Ritz, NBCT
Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction



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ESSA Flexibility Waiver Related News

NEW - The comment period to the U.S. Department of Education on proposed rulemaking pertaining to Title I, Part A and Title I, Part B closes on 9/09/2016. The proposed rules can be found at US ED's website. The Comment period on proposed rulemaking on Accountability and State Plans closed on Monday, August 1st. Please frequently visit [IDOE's ESSA webpage](#), for the latest information regarding Indiana's ESSA planning activities.

If you have any questions, please contact Federal Relations Director Jeff Coyne at jcoyne@doe.in.gov.



Through the Hoosier Family of Readers initiative, students and their families across the state have unlimited access to reading material on [myON](#).

IDOE Memoranda

NEW - Indiana Kids Election is being sponsored by the Indiana Department of Education. Indiana law (IC 20-30-5-4) requires that all Indiana schools teach election materials during a year when a general election takes place. Participation in this program is one way that schools can meet this statutory requirement. More information can be found [in the attached memorandum](#).

Staff Performance Evaluation Plan Submission Legal Standard 12 requires each public school corporation school to provide a copy of its entire staff performance evaluation plan to the Indiana Department of Education. The evaluation plans must be submitted through DOE Online for Accreditation Legal Standard 12 by September 15, 2016. Charter schools submit their staff performance evaluation plans via email to charterevaluation@doe.in.gov. For additional information, [please see the attached memorandum](#). Submissions must include a completed [IDOE Evaluation Plan Submission Coversheet 2016-2017](#) (attached). Contact Caitlin Beatson at cbeatson@doe.in.gov with questions

Back-to-School Teachers' Toolbox The [August issue of the Teachers' Toolbox](#) is now available. Filled with instructional resources for educators, this issue has curated content for educators at any level or subject area.

School Improvement Plan (SIP) and Student Achievement Plan (SAP) Submission Per P.L. 221, all Indiana public schools must annually submit a school improvement plan. School Improvement Plans (SIP) for SY 16-17 will be due October 1, 2016. For Focus/Priority Schools, Student Achievement Plans (SAP) are also due October 1, 2016. Please see the [attached memorandum](#) for further guidance for schools to submit the SIP/SAP through DOE Online or [AdvancED](#).

Zika Virus Updates and Resources - There are several viruses that can be spread by mosquito bites such as dengue, chikungunya and the Zika virus. IDOE has a [Zika Virus Prevention webpage](#) that houses resources for schools and school districts to use as a reference for preventing the spread of these diseases.

ECA Rescore Window Opens The ECA Spring Rescore window is open through August 12, 2016. Parents/Guardians can [visit this link](#) and login to begin the rescore process. We have also attached a [Quick Reference Guide](#) for parents/guardians that you may share. If a parent/guardian has misplaced a username or password information, needs technical assistance or would like to be walked through the rescore process, customer support can be reached at 877-424-0322 or ECASupport@questarai.com.

If you have additional questions, please contact Jenny Berry at jberry@doe.in.gov.

Professional Development

NEW - Ball State Field Trips is creating a free iPad app and live television broadcast for students across Indiana to help them learn more about Indiana's bicentennial celebration. Learn more on the website for [Ball State Field Trips](#).

NEW - Indiana School Social Worker Association Fall Conference INSSWA is having a fall conference celebrating their 20th anniversary on September 23, 2016 in Greenwood. The conference will include workshops, keynote speakers and opportunities for networking. More information can be found on the [INSSWA website](#).

NEW - Writing Pathways to Disciplinary Learning Participants will leave at the end of the day with "writing to learn" activities and an assignment design that they can implement in their courses and perhaps even during the Fall '16 semester. The focus of the conference will be on writing in the discipline with an emphasis on the connection among writing, critical thinking and reading. [More information can be found in the brochure](#).

National Career Pathways Network Conference The NCPN conference (Oct 5-7) is in Indianapolis this year and will offer a full day of preconference workshops on Career Pathways, CTE, business-education partnerships, and other important topics. [More information can be found on their website](#).

Indiana School Counselor Regional Workshops Information regarding the registration for school counselor regional workshops has been posted on the Department's website. Those interested in registering will be asked to complete a short survey before being directed to the registration page. More information can be found in the [attached memorandum on School Counselor Workshops](#).

Bicentennial during the 2016-2017 school year, 4th Graders, This is a great opportunity for 4th Grade Classrooms during the first school semester. The Indiana State House Tour Office, in conjunction with the Indiana Center for the Book, holds an essay competition to commemorate Indiana Statehood Day each year. Indiana's 200th birthday is December 11, 2016. Winners of the essay contest are honored at a Statehood Day Celebration at one of four participating locations in downtown Indianapolis. For more information, please visit the [Bicentennial website](#).

National Alliance for Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) 2016 National Conference in Louisville, KY. October 16-18, 2016, Louisville, KY For Information please visit the [NACEP website](#).

Indiana State Library's INSPIRE Digital Literacy Resource, [INSPIRE](#) has licensed TeachingBooks.net - a service that enhances your literacy work with instructional and primary source materials about the books and authors your students are reading. To learn more register for INSPIRE Webinars covering a variety of topics including Indiana reading lists, cross curricular resources and more. For more information about this resource, visit [the Teaching Books website](#).

Indiana Education Service Centers offer a variety of professional development opportunities. To learn more about professional learning opportunities in your area, visit the website of an Education Service Center in your area.

- [Region 8 Education Service Center](#)
- [Central Indiana Education Service Center](#)
- [Northwest Indiana Education Service Center](#)
- [Southern Indiana Education Service Center](#)
- [East Central Indiana Education Service Center](#)
- [West Central Indiana Education Service Center](#)
- [Wabash Valley Education Service Center](#)
- [Wilson Education Center ESC Region 2](#)

Legislative & Policy Updates

For updates, check out our [Facebook](#) page and follow us on [Twitter](#).

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Information from Other Agencies

#KickRxAbuse Challenge The Indiana Attorney General is inviting students to participate in a video challenge to combat prescription drug abuse. [More information is available on the AG's website.](#)

Dear Indiana School Teachers: It is "Back to School" time, start off the year with a memorable educational fieldtrip to the 2016 Indiana State Fair. The Indiana State Fair Fieldtrips are an opportunity for Classroom and Home Educators to enhance curriculum by utilizing an educational experience that cannot be accomplished in the classroom setting. New this year, educators will be able to create a unique self-guided fieldtrip experience by selecting from participating exhibits at the Fair. Educators will be equipped with activities and ideas that can build upon the students' exploration and interaction at the Indiana State Fair. Fieldtrips require pre-registration and 15 or more students to participate. Learn more at the [Indiana State Fair Website](#).

[This week on The Friday Zone](#) - Meet a 2nd grade class that is learning lessons in American Sign Language. Students will explain how it's working and teach signs that anyone can use. The Friday Zone is a weekly program on Indiana PBS stations that uses hands-on demonstrations to teach children in grades K-2 principles drawn from state educational standards. Check your local station for times. [Get free PBS KIDS app cards](#) by completing our viewer survey at [fridayzone.org](#).

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Indiana Department of Education
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This email was sent to: stevewalsh881@gmail.com

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